

Message Text

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70

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 EB-07 OFA-01 SCA-01 H-02 INR-07

DLOS-04 PRS-01 CG-00 DOTE-00 SS-15 TRSE-00 SCS-03

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0891

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, MX

SUBJ: DECEMBER MEETING OF IATTC - CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR

CASTRO Y CASTRO

1. FISHATT MET WITH AMBASSADOR CASTRO Y CASTRO AT THE LATTER'S REQUEST ON OCTOBER 28 TO DISCUSS DECEMBER MEETING OF THE IATTC. CASTRO SAID THAT IN VIEW OF PROBABLE MEXICAN 200 MILE ECONOMIC ZONE NEXT YEAR AND LOS NEGOTIATIONS HE HOPED THAT WE COULD REACE PROMPT AGREEMENT WITHOUT ENGAGING IN USUAL IDEOLOGICAL DISCUSSIONS AND THAT AS FAR AS MEXICO IS CONCERNED THEY WOULD LIKE TO MAINTAIN THE STATUS QUO. WHEN INFORMED THAT THIS WAS EXACTLY WHAT THE UNITED STATES HAD PROPOSED IN PARIS HE SAID THAT UNFORTUNATELY THE U.S. IDEA OF THE STATUS QUO WAS NOT THE SAME AS MEXICO'S. HE SAID THAT SINCE THE UNITED STATES HAS AGREED EACH YEAR, FOR THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS, TO A SMALL INCREASE IN MEXICO'S SPECIAL ALLOCATION THAT THE STATUS QUO WOULD BE TO AGAIN AGREE TO A SMALL INCREASE FOR MEXICO. HE SAID THAT IN WASHINGTON MEXICO WILL ASK FOR AN INCREASE OF 3,00 TONS AS OPPOSED TO THE 6,000 THAT WAS ASKED FOR IN PARIS. WHEN IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT MEXICO HAD BEEN UNABLE TO CATCH THE TOTAL AMOUNT

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OF THEIR SPECIAL ALLOCATION FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS AND

PROBABLY WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO CATCH THE ADDITIONAL 3,000 TONS THAT WAS BEING ASKED FOR 1976 CASTRO AGREED AND SAID THAT THE ADDITIONAL REQUEST WAS STRICTLY FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES AND SINCE THEY PROBABLY WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO CATCH IT HE DIDN'T SEE WHY IT SHOULD BOTHER THE U.S. FISHATT REPLIED THAT THE U.S. TUNA INDUSTRY WAS UNANIMOUSLY OPPOSED TO ANY INCREASE IN SPECIAL ALLOCATIONS AND THAT THE USG TOOK THE OPINION OF ITS INDUSTRY VERY SERIOUSLY. FOR THAT REASON ANY AGREEMENT WICH RESULTED IN AN INCREASE IN MEXICO'S SPECIAL ALLOCATION WOULD HAVE TO BE THE RESULT OF AN EXTREMELY UNPOPULAR DECISION BY USG, AND THAT WE COULD NOT GUARANTEE THAT USG WOULD MAKE SUCH AN UNPOPULAR DECISION.

2. WHEN QUESTIONED ABOUT MEXICO'S IMPLEMENTATION OF A 200 MILE ECONOMIC ZONE CASTRO SAID THAT THE LAW HAD BEEN DRAFTED (BUT THAT HE HAD NOT SEEN IT) AND HE DID NOT KNOW WHY THE PRESIDENT WAS DELAYING IN SENDING IT TO CONGRESS. HOWEVER HE SAID HE ASSUMED IT WOULD BE SENT SOON SINCE THE PRESENT CONGRESS ENDS DECEMBER 31. WHEN IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT WOULD ALSO HAVE TO BE RATIFIED BY A MAJORITY OF THE STATE LEGISLATORS HE SAID THAT WAS NO PROBLEM SINCE THE GOVERNORS COULD CALL A SPECIAL SESSION ANY TIME THEY CHOSE.

3. WHEN ASKED IF HE COULD PROVIDE A WRITTEN STATEMENT CONCERNING THE PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE WHICH HE MENTIONED IN PARIS THAT MEXICO PLANS TO CONVENE DURING THE SECOND HALF OF 1976 TO DISCUSS A REGIONAL ORGANIZATION TO REPLACE THE PRESENT TUNA COMMISSION HE SAID THAT THERE HAD NEVER BEEN ANYTHING IN WRITING, THAT FOREIGN MINISTER RABASA HAD GIVEN HIM THESE INSTRUCTIONS VERBALLY. HE ADDED THAT RABASA FELT THAT CONE MEXICO'S 200 MILE ECONOMIC ZONE IS IMPLEMENTED, PRESUMABLY SOMETIME DURING THE FIRST HALF OF NEXT YEAR, THE PRESENT TUNA COMMISSION WILL HAVE LITTLE MEANING AND A NEW SYSTEM WILL HAVE TO BE DEvised. FISHATT EXPLAINED THAT HE NEW YORK MEETING SCHEDULED TO BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NOVEMBER 3 WAS BEING COVOKED FOR EXACTLY THAT PURPOSE. CASTRO REPLIED THAT THE MEETING PROPOSED BY MEXICO WOULD BE AN EXTENSION OF THE NEW YORK MEETING AND AT WHICH PERHAPS THERE WOULD BE SOME CONCRETE RESULTS SINCE THEY EXPECTED LITTLE FROM THE NEW YORK MEETING. BRANDIN

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